

Course Syllabus



Kochi India (Contact Sheet), Vivian Maier, 1959

School of Humanities, Arts, and Public Engagement

ART2021 | PHOTOGRAPHY: DARKROOM + FILM

3 Units

Spring 2025

DAYS + TIMES: Tuesday / Thursday, 12:00–2:20 pm

LOCATION: Keller 107 + Darkroom

FINAL EXAM: Thursday Dec, 18 - 1:30 - 4:00

INSTRUCTOR: [Lael Corbin, MFA](#)

CONTACT: lcorbin@pointloma.edu / phone: 619.849.2239

OFFICE: Keller 104 (*by appointment*)

HASHTAGS *#plnuart2021 #plnuartanddesign #plnuphotography*

PLNU MISSION

To Teach ~ To Shape ~ To Send

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service is an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we strive to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Art2021 Photography: Darkroom and Film provides an introduction to the fundamental technical, conceptual, and aesthetic issues of black and white photography. Students will examine photography as a fine art form with an emphasis on visual communication and personal expression. An exploration of photographic history, theory and applied laboratory experience will be conducted in order to facilitate the student's growth as an artist and become prepared for advanced course work.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Develop critical thinking, problem-solving, and knowledge through the completion of assignments and artworks created in this class.

- Idea Objective: Learning to Apply and Develop Creative Capacities
- Activities and Assignments: Weekly Shooting Assignments, Printed Images Sets, In class Lab work

Acquire technical skills such as the manual operation of camera, the ability to determine correct exposure settings, the ability to process

exposed black and white film into negatives, and the ability to operate an enlarger to create photographic prints.

- Idea Objective: Developing specific skills, competencies, & points of view needed by professionals in this field
- Activities and Assignments: Weekly Shooting Assignments, Printed Images Sets, In class Lab work

Demonstrate basic rules of pictorial composition, and evaluate photographs in terms of their technical control, and visual content.

- Idea Objective: Develop Creative Capacities
- Activities and Assignments: Weekly Shooting Assignments, Printed Images Sets, In class Lab work

Evaluate personal motivations and conceptual intent about the artworks produced.

- Idea Objective: Developing skills in expressing oneself orally or in writing
- Activities and Assignments: Critiques and Artists Statements

Respond to, and critique the artworks of peers and professional examples.

- Idea Objective: Learning to analyze and critically evaluate ideas
- Activities and Assignments: Critiques and Artists Statements

REQUIRED TOOLS AND MATERIALS

You do not need to have these items until after we have discussed this list on the first day of the course

35mm SLR Camera *(not needed until after 1st critique)*

120 Black & White Film

- - 1 roll of Ilford FP4 Plus (or Kodak T-Max 100)

- 2 rolls of Ilford HP5 400

35mm Black& White Film *(not needed until after 1st critique)*

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- 1 Roll Ilford FP4 Plus (or Kodak T-Max 100)
- 1 Roll Ilford HP5 400
- 1 Roll Ilford Delta 400 (or Kodak Tri-X Pan 400)
- 1 Roll Ilford Delta Professional 3200 (or Kodak T-Max p3200)

*Additional film may be required depending on skill level of student.

An Additional 2-3 Rolls of Black and White Film (35mm, 120mm or other)*

There are other films that can be a lot of fun to play with and available through [Freestyle Photo](#) and [B&H Photo](#)

* Additional film may be required depending on skill level of student.

Ilford Multi-Grade RC Paper (Gloss, Satin, Pearl or Matt) or other (Arista) variable (Multi-grade) contrast papers (gloss)

Ilford Multi-Grade FB Paper (Gloss, Satin, Pearl or Matt) or other Fiber Bases papers. (not needed until after 1st critique)

* You may purchase these in packets of 25 sheets and replace as needed or you might share a packet of 100 with another student (this would be more economical).

Negative Storage Box (or 3 Ring Binder)

File Pages for Prints (you may split with a classmate)

File pages for Negatives (both 35 and 120) (you may split with a classmate)

Seal Dry Mount Tissue (pack of 25- you may split with a classmate)
[\(freestylephoto\)](#)

Mat board- Pre cut 11x14 boards (as needed - can be purchased in class).

Recommended Equipment

- A set of Ilford Multi-grade Filters
- Hand Towel
- Gloves (if you have sensitive skin)

COURSE CREDIT HOUR INFORMATION

In the interest of providing sufficient time to accomplish the stated Course Learning Outcomes, this class meets the PLNU credit hour policy for a 3 unit class delivered over 15 weeks. It is anticipated that students will spend a minimum of 37.5 participation hours per credit hour on their coursework. For this course, students will spend an estimated 112.5 total hours meeting the course learning outcomes. The time estimations are provided in the Canvas modules

ASSESMENT AND GRADING

SEMESTER GRADES

Final semester grades are based on a percentage of points accumulated in weighted categories throughout the semester. If class sessions must be canceled due to events out of the instructor's control such as illness, natural disaster, etc., the point total may be reduced, but the percentage assigned to each category will remain the same.

FINAL POINT DISTRIBUTION

30%: **Weekly Shooting** (300 pts.)

30%: **Unit Image Sets** (300 pts.)

15%: **Participation** (120 pts.)

15%: **Witten Work, Exercises + Homework** (aprox.100 pts.)

10%: **Quiz** (50 pts.)

GRADE SCALE

A = 93 – 100% of possible points

A- = 90 – 92% of possible points

B+ = 87 – 89% of possible points

B = 83 – 86% of possible points

B- = 80 – 82% of possible points

C+ = 77 – 79% of possible points

C = 73 – 76% of possible points

C- = 70 – 72% of possible points

D+ = 67 – 69% of possible points

D = 63 – 66% of possible points

D- = 60 – 62% of possible points

F = 0 – 59% of possible points

INDIVIDUAL PROJECT GRADES

While grading works of art is subjective, I try to approach each student's work as fairly and objectively as possible, taking into account each of the student's circumstances and abilities. Projects turned in late will receive an automatic 20 pt. deduction. You will then have one week from the due date to turn it in. After one week you will receive an F for that project. On-time means that it is uploaded to Canvas by the due date before the assignment closes. All homework assignments must be turned in through Canvas to

process. All homework assignments must be turned in through Canvas to receive credit, and will not be accepted late.

Individual work will be graded using the following 5 categories. Rubrics will be provided for each major assignment.

- - Meets Project Objectives
 - Craftsmanship/Technical
 - Composition/Visual
 - Conceptual/Creative
 - Individual Effort

FINAL EXAMINATION POLICY

Successful completion of this class requires taking the final examination on its scheduled day. The final examination schedule is posted on the [Traditional Undergraduate Records: Final Exam Schedules](#) site. If you find yourself scheduled for three (3) or more final examinations on the same day, you are authorized to contact each professor to arrange a different time for one of those exams. However, unless you have three (3) or more exams on the same day, no requests for alternative final examinations will be granted.

ASSIGNMENT CATEGORIES

WEEKLY SHOOTING ASSIGNMENTS & CONTACT SHEETS

There will be a shooting assignment presented each week in class. These assignments are intended to advance the students technical and conceptual abilities, as well as promote an active and diverse studio practice. Each week you will be responsible for shooting, developing and proofing at least one roll of film, or the equivalent. You will need to turn in a contact sheet of each roll to receive credit.

PHOTO PRINT SETS

There will be three Photo Print Sets required this semester. These will be an opportunity to demonstrate technical and create abilities, and to expand upon the themes of the weekly shooting assignments. The requirements for each of these image sets will be presented in class, and students will have multiple lab sessions to complete each set before being presented to the class in a formal critique.

WRITTEN WORK

Upon completion of each of the Photo Print Sets and in preparation for each critique, the student will be asked to create an artist statement reflecting on their work. An artist's statement is a short writing that offers insight into the images by describing your creative process, philosophy, vision, and motivation. Its goal is to enlighten, engage and provide insight about an artwork.

In addition to the written artists statements, students will be asked to complete short written responses to assigned readings, and topics of discussion.

CRITIQUES AND PARTICIPATION

The primary purpose of each of the three critiques is to provide a detailed analysis and evaluation of the artworks presented. It is also an opportunity to practice the language associated photography. Each student is expected to contribute to the discussion. In fact, your participation grade is based in part on your willingness to join in during the critique. If you are absent from a critique your project will be marked late. (-20 pts) There will be no opportunity to make up the points lost for missing a critique. Students are given a grade for each critique. 50% of the grade is based upon participation

during the critique, and 50% is based upon overall class participation up to that point.

ATTENDANCE

PLNU ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION POLICY

Regular and punctual attendance at all class sessions is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. If the student is absent for more than 10 percent of class sessions, the faculty member will issue a written warning of de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent, the student may be de-enrolled without notice until the university withdrawal date or, after that date, receive an "F" grade.

Exceptions to the attendance policy will only be made in the event of a family emergency, illness with a doctor's verification, or something of an unexpected, urgent nature which is out of your control. Family vacations, weddings, work schedules, and or travel/flight schedules are not valid excuses for missing a required class session or exam. Excessive absences may result in you being dropped from the course. If you miss 30 minutes or more of a required class session, you will be marked absent. 3 late arrivals or early departures equal an absence.

- - **1–2 unexcused absences:** *no effect*
 - **3–5 unexcused absences:** *–10 percentage points from participation grade, for each unexcused absence beyond 2*
 - **6+ unexcused absences:** *Withdrawal from course, or failure if after last day to drop*
 - **5+ minutes late:** *Tardy*
 - **30+ minutes late:** *Absent*
 - **3 Tardy:** *Absent*

PHONES AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES:

- - Students should remain focused and engaged during class.
 - Phones must be silenced and placed in a designated phone bin during class.
 - Headphones are not allowed during class.
 - Unauthorized use of electronic devices for non-course-related activity is prohibited.
 - Repeated violations of these policies may result in an absence.
 - If you have an emergency or special circumstance, arrangements must be worked out in advance with the professor.

1st Offense = Warning / 2nd Offense = 1 tardy / 3rd or more = absence for each offense

CLEAN UP POLICY

Art, by its nature, is a messy process. It is important that you clean up after yourself. This includes the classroom and anywhere else that you might work. These are areas that we all share and use, so be courteous and leave your work area as clean or cleaner than you found it. If you habitually neglect to clean up after yourself your final grade will be affected.

1st Offense = Warning / 2nd Offense = 1 tardy / 3rd or more = absence for each offense

MATERIALS AND SAFETY

Practicing studio safety is a combination of four factors: having knowledge of the materials you are handling, understanding the environment (space) in which you are working, being aware of emergency procedures, and practicing common sense in any given situation. While the majority of the black and white chemicals are in the range of non-toxic to slightly toxic to

most people, black and white developers are in the range of slightly toxic to toxic, especially if these developers are ingested, inhaled or come in contact with bare skin.

Please follow these rules for handling photo chemicals in the lab. It is vital to your health that you follow these rules! We all want you to stay healthy and live a long, productive life as an artist.

These guidelines are not designed to produce paranoia but to ensure that you have a long and safe adventure in uncovering the many possibilities that are available in the realm of photography. Remember that your eyes, lungs, and skin are porous membranes and can absorb chemical vapors. It is your job to protect yourself.

BASIC PHOTO CHEMISTRY SAFETY

- - Keep all chemicals off your skin, out of your mouth, and away from your eyes. If you get any chemicals on your skin, flush the area immediately with cool running water.
 - You must use tongs when processing black and white paper. The only place you may use bare hands is to remove prints from the water bath or to wash prints. Developers are toxic, especially if absorbed through the skin over long periods of time.
 - Only an instructor or student aid (who has received the proper training) may mix chemistry. If you need chemicals mixed, seek out the instructor.
 - Clean up any chemical spills immediately! Wipe up with paper towels, cleaning until you are certain the chemicals are gone. Chemistry dries, turns to powder, gets on clothes and books, and then into your lungs or absorbed into your skin.
 - No eating or drinking in the lab

- No eating or drinking in the lab.
- o Wash your hands thoroughly after you are finished in the lab.
- o Do not mix or pour chemicals at eye level, as a splash could be harmful.
- o Always pour acids slowly into water; never pour water into acids. Wear protective eyewear when mixing acids.
- o Avoid touching any electrical equipment with wet hands.
- o Keep your workspace clean and uncontaminated.
- o If you have any pre-existing health problems, seek medical advice before attempting any chemical process in photography.
- o Remember, people have varying sensitivities to chemicals. If you have had allergic reactions to any chemicals, you should pay close attention to the effects that darkroom chemicals have on you, and you should be extra careful about following all safety procedures.

HAZARDS POSED BY PHOTO CHEMISTRY

- o **BLACK AND WHITE DEVELOPERS** Hazards: Skin and eye irritants. Can cause allergic reaction and allergic sensitivity. Especially hazardous in stock mixing stage. Precautions: To mix stock solutions wear goggles and gloves. Use gloves when mixing working solutions. Avoid skin contact with powders and solution.
- o **STOP BATH** Hazards: Concentrate is highly toxic by skin contact, inhalation or ingestion. Continued inhalation of working solution can cause severe sinusitis and bronchitis. Precautions: Only lab assistants and instructors can mix stop bath. Always measure water first, and then add acid. Always pour acids slowly into water; never pour water into acids. Do not mix or pour chemicals at eye level, as a splash could be harmful. Wear protective eyewear when mixing acids. If you splash stock solution on skin, flush immediately

and thoroughly with cold water. If you splash stock in eyes, flush immediately and fifteen minutes with cold water and seek immediate medical attention.

- **FIXER Hazards:** Not significantly hazardous, although may cause irritation of skin and allergies. If splashed on skin rinse thoroughly with cold water. If splashed in eyes flush immediately and for fifteen minutes with cold water and seek medical attention.

WHAT TO DO IN CASE OF THESE EMERGENCIES:

- - **INHALATION OF CHEMISTRY:** get person to fresh air, and send someone for the school nurse.
 - **INGESTION OF CHEMISTRY:** notify the instructor immediately, he will call poison control and tell them what the person ingested and follow their directions to help the person. DO NOT induce vomiting unless poison control tells you to.
 - **CHEMICALS SPLASHED INTO EYES:** Immediately flood the eyes with cold water and continue to flood them for 15 minutes. Seek medical attention immediately.
 - **CHEMICALS SPLASHED ON SKIN:** Immediately flood skin with water until chemical is washed away. Seek medical attention immediately if you sense you need it, or if any change in skin condition occurs.

ADDITIONAL UNIVERSITY POLICES

CONTENT WARNING

I acknowledge that each of you comes to PLNU with your own unique life experiences. This contributes to the way you perceive various types of information. In Photography: Darkroom and Film , all of the class content,

including that which may be intellectually or emotionally challenging, has been intentionally curated to achieve the learning goals for this course. The decision to include such material is not taken lightly. These topics include sexuality, violence, death, and other themes that reflect the whole human experience. If you encounter a topic that is intellectually challenging for you, it can manifest in feelings of discomfort and upset. In response, I encourage you to come talk to me or your friends or family about it. Class topics are discussed for the sole purpose of expanding your intellectual engagement in the area of Art + Design, and I will support you throughout your learning in this course.

TRIGGER WARNING

I acknowledge that each of you comes to PLNU with your own unique life experiences. This contributes to the way you perceive several types of information. In Photography: Darkroom and Film, we will cover a variety of topics, some of which you may find triggering. These topics include sexuality, violence, death, and other themes that reflect the whole human experience. Each time this topic appears in a reading or unit, it is marked on the syllabus. The experience of being triggered versus intellectually challenged are different. The main difference is that an individual must have experienced trauma to experience being triggered, whereas an intellectual challenge has nothing to do with trauma. If you are a trauma survivor and encounter a topic in this class that is triggering for you, you may feel overwhelmed or panicked and find it difficult to concentrate. In response, I encourage you to take the necessary steps for your emotional safety. This may include leaving class while the topic is discussed or talking to a therapist at the Counseling Center. Should you choose to sit out on discussion of a certain topic, know that you are still responsible for the material; but we can discuss if there are other methods for accessing that material, and for assessing your learning on that material. Class topics are discussed for the sole purpose of expanding your intellectual engagement in

discussed for the sole purpose of expanding your intellectual engagement in the area of Art + Design, and I will support you throughout your learning in this course.

SPIRITUAL CARE

Please be aware PLNU strives to be a place where you grow as whole persons. To this end, we provide resources for our students to encounter God and grow in their Christian faith.

If you have questions, a desire to meet with the chaplain or have prayer requests you can contact your professor or the [Office of Spiritual Life and Formation](#).

STATE AUTHORIZATION

State authorization is a formal determination by a state that Point Loma Nazarene University is approved to conduct activities regulated by that state. In certain states outside California, Point Loma Nazarene University is not authorized to enroll online (distance education) students. If a student moves to another state after admission to the program and/or enrollment in an online course, continuation within the program and/or course will depend on whether Point Loma Nazarene University is authorized to offer distance education courses in that state. It is the student's responsibility to notify the institution of any change in his or her physical location. Refer to the map on [State Authorization](#) to view which states allow distance education outside California.

PLNU COPYRIGHT POLICY

Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the US Copyright Act for

classroom education. Any use of those materials outside the class may violate the law.

PLNU RECORDING NOTIFICATION

In order to enhance the learning experience, please be advised that this course may be recorded by the professor for educational purposes, and access to these recordings will be limited to enrolled students and authorized personnel.

Note that all recordings are subject to copyright protection. Any unauthorized distribution or publication of these recordings without written approval from the University (refer to the Dean) is strictly prohibited.

PLNU ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY

Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. Academic dishonesty is the act of presenting information, ideas, and/or concepts as one's own when in reality they are the results of another person's creativity and effort. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for that assignment or

examination, or, depending on the seriousness of the offense, for the course. For all student appeals, faculty and students should follow the procedures outlined in the University Catalog. See [Academic Policies](#) for definitions of kinds of academic dishonesty and for further policy information.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE POLICY

Note: Point Loma Nazarene University supports academic integrity and the thoughtful integration of emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence (AI), in the learning process. Below are three sample statements

reflecting varying levels of AI use permitted in this course. Faculty may select, adapt, or delete as appropriate.

You are allowed to use Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Gemini Pro 1.5, GrammarlyGo, Perplexity, etc) to generate ideas, but you are not allowed to use AI tools to generate content (text, video, audio, images) that will end up in any work submitted to be graded for this course. If you have any doubts about using AI, please gain permission from the instructor.

[MLA Style Center: Citing Generative AI](#)

[APA Style: How to Cite ChatGPT](#)

[Chicago Manual of Style: Citing Content Developed or Generated by AI](#)

PLNU ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS POLICY

PLNU is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all its programs, services, and activities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students with disabilities may request course-related accommodations by contacting the Educational Access Center (EAC), located in the Bond Academic Center (EAC@pointloma.edu or 619-849-2533). Once a student's eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, the EAC will work with the student to create an Accommodation Plan (AP) that outlines allowed accommodations. Professors are able to view a student's approved accommodations through Accommodate.

PLNU highly recommends that students speak with their professors during the first two weeks of each semester/term about the implementation of their AP in that particular course. Accommodations are not retroactive so clarifying with the professor at the outset is one of the best ways to promote positive academic outcomes.

Students who need accommodations for a disability should contact the EAC as early as possible (i.e., ideally before the beginning of the semester) to assure appropriate accommodations can be provided. It is the student's responsibility to make the first contact with the EAC. Students cannot assume that because they had accommodations in the past, their eligibility at PLNU is automatic. All determinations at PLNU must go through the EAC process. This is to protect the privacy of students with disabilities who may not want to disclose this information and are not asking for any accommodations.

LANGUAGE AND BELONGING

Point Loma Nazarene University faculty are committed to helping create a safe and hospitable learning environment for all students. As Christian scholars we are keenly aware of the power of language and believe in treating others with dignity. As such, it is important that our language be equitable, inclusive, and prejudice free. Inclusive/Bias-free language is the standard outlined by all major academic style guides, including MLA, APA, and Chicago, and it is the expected norm in university-level work. Good writing and speaking do not use unsubstantiated or irrelevant

generalizations about personal qualities such as age, disability, economic class, ethnicity, marital status, parentage, political or religious beliefs, race, gender, sex, or sexual orientation. Inclusive language also avoids using stereotypes or terminology that demeans persons or groups based on age, disability, class, ethnicity, gender, race, language, or national origin.

Respectful use of language is particularly important when referring to those outside of the religious and lifestyle commitments of those in the PLNU community. By working toward precision and clarity of language, we mark ourselves as serious and respectful scholars, and we model the Christ-like quality of hospitality.

If you (or someone you know) have experienced other forms of discrimination, you can find more information on reporting and resources at www.pointloma.edu/nondiscrimination.

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT AND PARTICIPATION POLICY

In support of a safe learning environment, if you (or someone you know) have experienced any form of sexual discrimination or misconduct, including sexual assault, dating or domestic violence, or stalking, know that accommodations and resources are available through the Title IX Office at pointloma.edu/Title-IX. Please be aware that under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, faculty and staff are required to disclose information about such misconduct to the Title IX Office.

If you wish to speak to a confidential employee who does not have this reporting responsibility, you can contact Counseling Services at counselingservices@pointloma.edu or find a list of campus pastors at pointloma.edu/Title-IX.

If you (or someone you know) have experienced other forms of discrimination or bias, you can find more information on reporting and resources at www.pointloma.edu/bias

USE OF TECHNOLOGY

Note: Include this section if teaching an Online or Hybrid course.

In order to be successful in the online or hybrid environment, you'll need to meet the minimum technology and system requirements; please refer to the [Technology and System Requirements](#) information. Additionally, students are required to have headphone speakers, microphone, or webcams

compatible with their computer available to use. Please note that any course with online proctored exams requires a computer with a camera (tablets are not compatible nor allowable) to complete exams online.

Problems with technology do not relieve you of the responsibility of participating, turning in your assignments, or completing your class work.

Quick Links to Resources

[Netiquette Guidelines](#) | [Help Resources & Technical Support](#) | [Technology & System Requirements](#) | [Canvas Guide](#)